

From: prc@duke.edu@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 4:58pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

It is my opinion as a citizen of the United States of America that the proposed settlement of the Microsoft Antitrust suit is a bad idea, and that it does not prevent further monopolistic abuses by the company. The best way (in my opinion) to resolve Microsoft's monopoly status is to break the company into several pieces.

History has shown that dividing monopolies brings greater value than allowing them to remain intact. As examples, look at Standard Oil and AT&T--in the long term, these resulting multiple-company systems resulting from each breakup were worth more, paid more taxes, and employed more people than either company ever would have on their own.

Shareholders in these enterprises benefited as well from this growth--the value of their shares soaring as the individual companies competed against each other.

Finally, because of the increased competition that was possible against AT&T and Standard Oil, even more economic growth could be experienced by the nation as outside competitors were able to grow as well.

Thank you,

Patrick Campbell